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**WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**

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**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON  
  
RELATIVE CAREGIVERS**

March 28, 2003

RL 2003-05



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**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RELATIVE CAREGIVERS  
REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**

Prepared by:  
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March 28, 2003

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## **PART I**

### **KEY PROVISIONS OF COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Special Committee on Relative Caregivers recommends the following proposal to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2003-04 Session of the Legislature. Assembly Bill 201 (and its companion bill Senate Bill 82).

#### **2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 201 AND 2003 SENATE BILL 82, RELATING TO KINSHIP CARE, NOTICE OF GUARDIANSHIP PROCEEDINGS, CREATING A HEALTH SERVICES CONSENT FORM, REQUESTING THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO STUDY GUARDIANSHIP AND LEGAL CUSTODY, GRANTING RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES**

- Makes the following changes to current law relating to the kinship care program:
  - ◆ Modifies the eligibility criteria so that a child does not need to be a child or juvenile in need of protection or services (CHIPS or JIPS) in order for a kinship care relative to receive payments. In addition, a county department or, in Milwaukee County, the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) must find, for purposes of determining eligibility for kinship care payments, that a child needs to be placed with the relative if the child is CHIPS or JIPS or if the child has lived with the relative for two years or longer and the placement is voluntary and appropriate.
  - ◆ Limits the arrests that a county department or DHFS may consider in conducting a criminal background check for purposes of kinship care payment eligibility to arrests for which a criminal charge is pending.
  - ◆ Requires a county department or DHFS to provide notice of discontinuation of kinship care payments to a relative at least 10 days before the payments are to be discontinued along with notice of the relative's rights to appeal the discontinuation and to receive payments pending a hearing to appeal the discontinuation decision.
  - ◆ Provides that a kinship care relative who receives notice that his or her payments are being discontinued may receive payments pending a hearing to appeal the discontinuation decision if the relative requests a hearing before the payments are to be discontinued.
  - ◆ Requires a county department or DHFS to determine that an applicant's conviction record is likely to adversely affect the child or the relative's ability to care for the child in order to deny payments on the basis of a conviction record. This change also applies to conviction records of employees of the relative and adult residents of the relative's home.

- ◆ Requires DHFS to provide applicants who are denied kinship care payments on the basis of a conviction record the right to a fair hearing to appeal the denial.
  - ◆ Prohibits the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) from requiring relatives to pay a copayment for child care subsidies received on behalf of a child for whom the relative is receiving kinship care payments.
  - ◆ Permits DHFS to request supplemental funding for the kinship care program if funding for kinship care payments is insufficient.
  - ◆ Requires DHFS to study methods to manage kinship care funding for kinship care payments in order to minimize the need for waiting lists for payments and to report the results of its study to the Governor and the Legislature by June 30, 2004.
- Creates a health services consent form that parents may use to transfer decision-making authority for routine and emergency health services to an adult with whom a child lives.
  - Requires notice of a hearing to appoint a guardian to be published as a Class 1 notice (i.e., published once) instead of as a Class 3 notice (i.e., published three times), if personal service is not possible.
  - Requests the Joint Legislative Council to study state laws regarding guardianship and legal custody of minors and the rights and responsibilities of guardians and legal custodians.

## **PART II**

### **COMMITTEE ACTIVITY**

#### **ASSIGNMENT**

The Joint Legislative Council (JLC) established the Special Committee on Relative Caregivers and appointed the co-chairs by a May 22, 2002 mail ballot. The Special Committee was directed to study: (1) current law relating to relative caregivers under the Children's Code and under current law relating to guardianship and kinship care; (2) relatives who care for children under an informal agreement between the child's parent and the relative and whether such relatives should be granted decision-making authority with respect to the child's care; and (3) third-party visitation law and enforcement of third-party visitation orders.

Membership of the Special Committee, appointed by a July 15, 2002 mail ballot, consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and eight public members. A list of committee members is included as *Appendix 3* to this report.

#### **SUMMARY OF MEETINGS**

The Special Committee held five meetings at the State Capitol in Madison on the following dates:

August 8, 2002	December 4, 2002
September 3, 2002	January 24, 2003
October 30, 2002	

August 8, 2002: The committee heard testimony from several invited speakers. Susan Dreyfus, Administrator, Division of Children and Family Services, DHFS, described how her division addresses the needs of relative caregivers and the kinship care program. Mary Brintnall-Peterson, Professor, University of Wisconsin (UW)-Extension, discussed data relating to relative caregivers based on the most recent census and surveys conducted by the UW-Extension. Gene Hotchkiss, a grandparent who adopted his granddaughter, described obstacles he and his wife encountered in caring for their granddaughter while their daughter maintained legal custody. He advocated for legislation that would give legal custody to a relative with whom a child resides for a specified amount of time. Carol Gapen, an attorney with Stafford Rosenbaum, LLP, who practices children's law described problems relative caregivers face because they do not have standing in many legal proceedings or authority to consent to medical care. Patti Seger, Policy Development Coordinator, Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, described issues relating to relative caregivers in families experiencing domestic violence.

September 3, 2002: The committee heard a presentation by Julie Poehlmann, Assistant Professor of Human Development and Family Studies, UW, relating to her research on the relationship between incarcerated mothers, their young children, and the caregivers of the young children. The committee also discussed possibilities for legislation that would confer

authority to relatives caring for children informally to make medical and education decisions for the children in their care.

October 30, 2002: The committee heard presentations from several invited speakers discussing the kinship care program. Susan Dreyfus, DHFS, said DHFS recommends amending current law to require county kinship care programs to inform all court-ordered relative caregivers of the option to be licensed as foster parents because licensed foster parents have access to a number of services including training and support to the home and child. Patricia Delessio, an attorney with Legal Action of Wisconsin, recommended amending state law to allow kinship care payments in cases where the child has lived with the relative since an early age or for a substantial period of time after considering, such as the child's best interests, parental involvement, the relationship that has developed between the relative and the child and the likelihood that the parent will assume responsibility for the child. She also recommended changes to criminal background investigations, notice when payments are terminated, and providing fair hearings when payments are denied due to a conviction record. Micabil Diaz-Martinez, the Legal Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin Foundation, spoke as one of the attorneys currently representing the children of Milwaukee in a class action against DHFS with respect to the foster care system in Milwaukee County. Mr. Diaz-Martinez said that there is a need for more foster parents and kinship care relatives to care for children who are victims of abuse and neglect. The committee also heard from two parents whose children have been cared for by a relative. Following the presentations, the committee had an extensive discussion about WLC: 0013/1 relating to health care agents for parents of a minor. The committee made a number of changes to the draft. The committee also concluded that changes to current law regarding allowing relatives to enroll children in school were unnecessary as current case law generally permits the child to go to school where the child lives.

December 4, 2002: The committee requested staff to prepare bill drafts revising the eligibility criteria for the kinship care program and making modifications to the provisions of the kinship care program statutes relating to criminal background checks and termination of payments. In addition, the committee concluded that the Legislature should further study the issue of how to define the responsibilities and authority of physical custodians, legal custodians, and guardians and committee members asked staff to draft legislation requesting the JLC to establish a committee to study this issue.

January 24, 2003: The committee voted to approve 11 bill drafts, with minor amendments. The committee decided not to consider a bill draft that would require counties to provide relative caregivers the opportunity to become foster parents. Committee members speaking on behalf of counties said that it would be too expensive for counties to make foster care payments to relatives who are not willing to care for additional foster children.



### **PART III**

#### **RECOMMENDATION INTRODUCED BY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

This part of the report provides background information on, and a description of, the drafts recommended by the Special Committee on Relative Caregivers for introduction in the 2003-04 Session of the Legislature.

#### **2003 ASSEMBLY BILL 201 AND 2003 SENATE BILL 82, RELATING TO KINSHIP CARE, NOTICE OF GUARDIANSHIP PROCEEDINGS, CREATING A HEALTH SERVICES CONSENT FORM, REQUESTING THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO STUDY GUARDIANSHIP AND LEGAL CUSTODY, GRANTING RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES**

##### **Kinship Care Program**

The kinship care program provides a payment of \$215 per month to eligible kinship care relatives who are providing care and maintenance for a child. [s. 48.57 (3m) (am), Stats.] “Kinship care relative” is defined as a stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, first cousin, nephew, niece, aunt, uncle, or any person of a preceding generation as denoted by the prefix of grand, great, or great-great, whether by blood, marriage or legal adoption, or the spouse of any such person, even if the marriage is terminated by death or divorce. [s. 48.57 (3m) (a) 2., Stats.]

In 1996, the kinship care program was created by Wisconsin Act 289, which also created the Wisconsin Works (W-2) program. That act eliminated the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program, including the portion of the AFDC program that paid AFDC benefits to a nonlegally responsible relative (NLRR) who was providing care for a child. The kinship care program is generally viewed as replacing the AFDC-NLRR program; however, the eligibility criteria vary significantly.

In December 2002, kinship care payments, including long-term kinship care payments, were made on behalf of 8,750 children, including 5,392 children in Milwaukee County.

The program is administered by the county departments of human or social services (county department) or, in Milwaukee County, DHFS. In addition, DHFS may enter into an agreement with the governing body of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band (tribe) to administer the program within the boundaries of the tribe’s reservation. [s. 48.57 (3m) (am), Stats.]

##### **Eligibility Criteria**

###### **Background**

Among other eligibility criteria, in order to qualify for kinship care payments, a county department or DHFS must determine that both of the following conditions are met:

a. There is a need for the child to be placed with the kinship care relative and placement with the kinship care relative is in the best interests of the child.

b. The child meets one or more of the CHIPS or JIPS criteria or would be at risk of meeting one or more of the CHIPS or JIPS criteria if the child were to remain in his or her home.<sup>1</sup>

[s. 48.57 (3m) (am) 1. and 2., Stats.]

### **Description**

Under the bill, a child does not need to be found to be CHIPS or JIPS or at risk of being CHIPS or JIPS in order for a relative to be eligible to receive kinship care payments. However, that factor may be considered in determining whether the child needs to be placed with the kinship care relative. The bill draft also specifies that a county department or DHFS must find that there is a need for the child to be placed with the kinship care relative if the county department or DHFS determines either of the following:

- The child is CHIPS or JIPS or at risk of being CHIPS or JIPS.
- The child has been living with a relative for two years or longer and the county department or DHFS determines that the child's parents have consented to the living arrangement and that the living arrangement is not contrary to the child's health, safety, or welfare.

### **Criminal Background Investigation**

#### **Background**

In determining eligibility for kinship care payments, a county department or DHFS must conduct a criminal background investigation of all of the following in order to determine whether any have arrests or convictions that could adversely affect the child or the kinship care relative's ability to care for the child:

- The kinship care relative.
- The employees and prospective employees of the relative who have or would have regular contact with the child.
- Any other adult resident of the relative's home.

[s. 48.57 (3m) (am) 4., Stats.]

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<sup>1</sup>CHIPS criteria are set forth in s. 48.13, Stats., and include such grounds as abandonment, abuse, or neglect; JIPS criteria are set forth in s. 938.13, Stats., and include such grounds as uncontrollable or runaway juveniles.

Kinship care payments must be denied if the kinship care relative has been convicted of any of the following crimes or had any of the following penalties imposed in Wisconsin or under a similar law in another state or under federal law:

- Felony conviction under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act. [ch. 961.]
- Penalties imposed for habitual criminality [s. 939.62]; certain domestic abuse offenses [s. 939.621]; use of a dangerous weapon [s. 939.63]; use of a bulletproof garment while committing a felony [s. 939.64]; concealing identity while committing a crime [s. 939.641]; and hate crime [s. 939.645].
- Convictions of a crime against life and bodily security [ch. 940]; *except* failure by a peace officer to render aid [s. 940.291]; and failure by an individual to aid a victim or report a crime [s. 940.34].
- Conviction of a crime against sexual morality [ch. 944]; *except* solicitation of drinks by an employee from a customer [s. 944.36]; and the following crimes if the violation was 20 or more years prior to the investigation: prostitution [s. 944.30]; patronizing prostitutes [s. 944.31]; and pandering [s. 944.33].
- Convictions of a crime against children [ch. 948]; *except* contributing to truancy [s. 948.45]; receiving property from a child [s. 948.63]; and tattooing a child [s. 948.70].

In addition, a kinship care relative is prohibited from employing anyone who would have regular contact with the child or from permitting any adult to be a resident of his or her home if the employee or adult has been convicted of such crimes or had such penalties imposed. [s. 48.57 (3p) (g), Stats.]

A person who is denied kinship care payments or who is prohibited from employing a person or from permitting an adult to reside in his or her home because the person, employee, or adult resident has been convicted of any of these crimes or had any of these penalties imposed may request a review of the denial or prohibition. The review is conducted by the director of the county department, the person designated by the governing body of the federally recognized tribe, or the person designated by the Secretary of DHFS. A denial of payments on the basis of a conviction or arrest for which payments must be denied may not be reviewed through the fair hearing process.

The review must include consideration of the following factors on a case-by-case basis:

- The length of time between the date of the arrest, conviction, or imposition of the penalty and the date of the review.
- The nature of the violation or penalty and how that violation or penalty affects the ability of the kinship care relative to care for the child.

- Whether making an exception to the denial or prohibition would be in the best interests of the child.

If the reviewer determines that the record does not include any arrests, convictions, or penalties that are likely to adversely affect the child or the relative's ability to care for the child, the reviewer may approve kinship care payments or may permit the relative to employ the person or allow the person to be an adult resident in the home. [s. 48.57 (3p) (h), Stats., and s. HFS 58.08 (2) (a), Wis. Adm. Code.]

### **Description**

The bill makes several changes to criminal background investigations for the kinship care program.

First, the bill limits the arrests that may be considered in conducting a criminal background check for purposes of kinship care payment eligibility to arrests for which a criminal charge is pending.

The bill also requires a county department or DHFS to determine that a conviction is likely to adversely affect the child or the relative's ability to care for the child in order to deny payments on the basis of a conviction record. This change also applies to conviction records of employees of the relative and adult residents of the relative's home. Under this change, a finding that a person has a conviction for which payments must be denied under current law must be accompanied by a finding that the conviction will adversely affect the child on the relative's ability to care for the child before payments may be denied.

Finally, the bill draft requires DHFS to provide applicants who are denied kinship care payments on the basis of a conviction record the right to a fair hearing to appeal the denial.

### **Discontinuation of Payments**

#### **Background**

Under current law, if a county department or DHFS determines that a kinship care relative is no longer eligible to receive kinship care payments, the county department or DHFS must discontinue those payments. In general, if the recipient requests a hearing on the discontinuation within 10 days of the date of the notice that payments will be discontinued, the payments may not be discontinued pending the hearing decision. [s. 48.57 (3m) (d) and (g) 2. and (3n) (d) and (g) 2., Stats.]

Under current administrative rules, the county department or DHFS must provide a kinship care relative with notice that his or her payments are being discontinued. The notice must set forth the relative's right to appeal the discontinuation and right to continued payments pending appeal. [s. HFS 58.08 (1), Wis. Adm. Code.]

## **Description**

The bill requires a county department or DHFS to notify a kinship care relative that his or her payments will be discontinued at least 10 days in advance. The notice must include notice of the kinship care relative's rights to appeal the discontinuation and to continued payments while the appeal is pending.

Under the bill, a kinship care relative must request a hearing before the date the payments are to be discontinued in order to receive payments pending the hearing decision.

## **Copayments for Child Care Subsidies**

### **Background**

Under current law, an individual who receives a child care subsidy is liable for a percentage of the cost of the child care specified by the DWD in a printed copayment schedule. Current law specifies, however, that an individual who is under the age of 20 and is attending high school or participating in a course of study for granting a declaration of equivalency to high school graduation may not be determined liable for more than the minimum copayment amount. [s. 49.155 (5), Stats.]

Current administrative rules make the following additional exceptions to the copayment requirement for kinship care relatives:

- Kinship care relatives who are providing care for a child under court order do not have a copayment responsibility for the kinship care child in their care.
- Kinship care relatives who are providing care for a child without a court order are generally responsible for the minimum copayment.

[s. DWD 56.08 (2) (c) and (d), Wis. Adm. Code.]

### **Description**

The bill provides that kinship care relatives are not responsible for a copayment for child care services received on behalf of a child for whom they are receiving kinship care payments. In addition, the bill draft provides that DWD may exempt others from copayment requirements by rule.

## **Funding**

### **Background**

Current law provides that kinship care payments are funded by a sum certain appropriation of federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funding. [s. 20.435 (3) (kc), Stats.]

DHFS places applicants on a waiting list and permits county departments and tribes to place applicants on waiting lists if the agency has expended its kinship care benefit allocation for the agency's fiscal year or has established a caseload which will result in the agency expending its allocation by the end of the year and has notified DHFS of the need for a waiting list.

DHFS's administrative rules state that an agency may prioritize applicants on the waiting list according to any of the following criteria, as described in the agency's written policy:

- The lack of stability in the living arrangement if a payment is not made.
- The order in which the applications are received.
- The level of urgency of the child's need, as defined for determining eligibility for payments, described above.
- If the child is under the guardianship of the kinship care applicant.

An applicant may not be placed on a waiting list if a court has ordered that the child be placed with the relative. (Approximately 25% of kinship care cases are court-ordered cases.) [s. HFS 58.12, Wis. Adm. Code.]

### **Description**

The bill permits DHFS to request the Secretary of Administration to provide supplemental funding for the kinship care program if the amount of funding is insufficient to provide kinship care and long-term kinship care payments to all persons who are eligible to receive those payments. The Joint Committee on Finance must approve any supplemental funding proposed by the Secretary of Administration.

The bill also requires DHFS to study methods to manage funding for kinship care payments in order to minimize the need for waiting lists for payments and to report on the results of its study to the appropriate standing committees of the Legislature by June 30, 2004.

### **Health Services Consent Form**

#### **Background**

Under current law, generally only parents, guardians and legal custodians may consent to a minor's health care. Testimony to the Special Committee indicated that there are concerns among relatives who care for a child under an informal agreement with the child's parents that they may not legally obtain health care for the children in their care.

## **Description**

The bill creates a new section in the Children's Code that allows a parent to complete a form that gives an adult with whom a child lives the authority to make health services decisions for the child on behalf of the parent.

The bill includes a health services consent form. The form must be signed by the parent and by the caregiver. DHFS must prepare the health services consent form and accompanying information and make the form available, at no charge, on the Internet. The form must be prepared in English, Spanish, and any other language DHFS determines is spoken by a significant number of state residents.

A valid health services consent form gives the caregiver the authority to make routine and emergency health care decisions for the named child. A contravening decision by a parent, however, supersedes the caregiver's decision.

The bill allows a parent to revoke a health services consent form. Also, a form is not valid if the child no longer lives with the caregiver.

The bill provides immunity from liability for health care providers who act in good faith in complying with a health services consent form. In addition, a caregiver may not be liable for making a decision in good faith under a valid health services consent form.

Under the bill, a person who falsifies a health services consent form may be required to pay a forfeiture. A person who attempts to give consent under a form that the individual knows has been executed without the voluntary consent of the parent, that the individual knows has been forged or substantially altered without the parent's authorization, or that the individual knows has been revoked with the intent of acting contrary to the child's parent's wishes may be charged with a misdemeanor.

## **Notice of Guardianship Proceedings**

### **Background**

Under current law, notice of a hearing to appoint a guardian for a minor must be published in a newspaper as a Class 3 notice (i.e., published three times) if personal service is not possible. [s. 880.08 (3) (am) (intro.), Stats.]

### **Description**

The bill requires such notice to be published as a Class 1 notice (i.e., published once).

## **Legislative Council Study on Guardianship and Legal Custody**

### **Background**

The Special Committee heard testimony from invited speakers and comments by committee members that there is ambiguity under current law regarding the rights and

responsibilities of guardians and legal custodians and how those rights and responsibilities relate to any residual rights and responsibilities of a child's parents.

**Description**

The bill includes a request that the JLC study state laws regarding guardianship and legal custody of minors and the rights and responsibilities of guardians and legal custodians.



## APPENDIX 1

### *Committee and Joint Legislative Council Votes*

This Appendix identifies the votes by the Special Committee on Relative Caregivers and the Joint Legislative Council on the proposal that was approved by the Special Committee for recommendation to the Joint Legislative Council for introduction in the 2003-04 Session of the Legislature:

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE VOTES

By a mail ballot dated February 10, 2003, the Special Committee voted to recommend WLC: 0127/1 to the JLC for introduction in the 2003-04 Session of the Legislature. The votes on the draft were as follows:

- WLC: 0127/1, relating to the kinship care program, notice of guardianship proceedings, creating a medical services consent form, and requesting the joint legislative council to study guardianship and legal custody: Ayes, 12 (Sen. Moore; Reps. Kestell, Krug, and Ott; and Public Members Albrecht, Cabraal, Gonzalez, Hafner, Huber, Kratz, McAllister, and Medaris); and Noes, 0.

#### JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL VOTES

At its February 19, 2003 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted as follows on the following recommendation of the Special Committee:

Introduction by the Joint Legislative Council of WLC: 0127/1 **PASSED** by a unanimous voice vote. WLC: 01271 was subsequently introduced as 2003 Assembly Bill 201 and 2003 Senate Bill 82.



## APPENDIX 2

### JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

s. 13.81, Stats.

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5440 Willow Road  
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**JOHN GARD**

*Speaker*

481 Aubin Street  
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Peshtigo, WI 54157

This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the cochairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.



## RELATIVE CAREGIVERS

Representative Steve Kestell, **Co-Chair**  
W3829 State Highway 32  
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Senator Gwendolynne S. Moore, **Co-Chair**  
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Representative Shirley I. Krug  
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Representative Al Ott  
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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Committee directed to study: (1) current law relating to relative caregivers under the Children's Code and under current law relating to guardianship and kinship care; (2) relatives who care for children under an informal agreement between the child's parent and the relative and whether such relatives should be granted decision-making authority with respect to the child's care; and (3) third-party visitation law and enforcement of third-party visitation orders.

Established and Co-Chairs appointed by a May 22, 2002 mail ballot; members appointed by a July 15, 2002 mail ballot.

**12 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator, 3 Representatives, and 8 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney, Philip Cardis, Staff Attorney, and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



## Committee Materials List

### February 10, 2003 Mail Ballot

[February 10, 2003 Mail Ballot](#)

[WLC: 0127/1](#), relating to the kinship care program, notice of guardianship proceedings, creating a medical services consent form, and requesting the joint legislative council to study guardianship and legal custody.

### January 24, 2003 Meeting

[WLC: 0053/2](#), relating to creating a medical services consent form

[WLC: 0105/1](#), relating to eligibility for kinship care payments

[WLC: 0106/1](#), relating to liability of kinship care relatives for child care subsidy copayment

[WLC: 0108/1](#), relating to appeal of denial of kinship care payments based on conviction record

[WLC: 0109/1](#), relating to continuation of kinship care and long-term kinship care payments following notice of discontinuation of payments

[WLC: 0110/1](#), relating to conviction records of applicants for kinship care payments

[WLC: 0111/1](#), relating to issuing foster home licenses to relative caregivers

[WLC: 0112/1](#), relating to denial or termination of kinship care payments on the basis of an arrest

[WLC: 0113/1](#), relating to notice of discontinuation of kinship care payments

[WLC: 0114/1](#), relating to notice of hearing for appointment of a guardian for a minor

[WLC: 0115/1](#), relating to joint legislative council study on guardianship and legal custody

[Memorandum](#) from **Lin Kenworthy**, a concerned grandparent (12-4-02)

### December 4, 2002 Meeting

[WLC: 0053/1](#), relating to creating a medical services consent form

[Memo No. 5](#), **Adoption Assistance Program** (10-22-02; updated 11-26-02)

[Memo No. 9](#), **Recommendations to the Special Committee on Relative Caregivers** (11-22-02)

[Memo No. 10](#), **Comparison of Criminal Background Checks in Kinship Care and Foster Care** (11-26-02)

[Memo No. 11](#), **Kinship Care in El Paso County, Colorado** (11-27-02)

[Memorandum](#) from **Lin Kenworthy**, a concerned grandparent regarding the relative caregiver study committee (11-25-02)

[Memorandum](#) from **Yvonne Onsager**, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, regarding Kinship Care proposals (11-26-02)

## October 30, 2002 Meeting

[WLC: 0013/1](#), relating to health care agents for parents of a minor

[Memo No. 4](#), **Determining Residency of a Child Who Lives With a Relative for Purposes of School Attendance** (10-21-02)

[Memo No. 6](#), **Comparison of Criminal Background Checks in Kinship Care and Foster Care** (10-23-02)

[Memo No. 7](#), **States' Kinship Care Policies** (10-23-02)

[Memo No. 8](#), **Recommendations to the Special Committee on Relative Caregivers** (10-28-02)

[Letter](#) from **Susan Dreyfus**, Administrator, Division of Children and Family Services, Department of Health and Family Services (9-10-02)

[Testimony](#), **Susan Dreyfus**, Administrator, Division of Children and Family Services, Department of Health and Family Services

[Testimony](#), **Patricia Delessio**, Attorney, Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc.

[Testimony](#), **Micabil Diaz-Martinez**, Legal Director, American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin

## September 3, 2002 Meeting

[Memo No. 2](#), **Consent to Medical Care and Education** (8-23-02)

[Memo No. 3](#), **Standing of Third Parties in Custody Actions** (8-23-02)

[Testimony](#), **Dr. Julie Poehlmann**, Assistant Professor, School of Human Ecology, Human Development and Family Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## August 8, 2002 Meeting

[Staff Brief 02-2](#), **Grandparent and Other Relative Caregivers for Children** (8-1-02)

[Memo No. 1](#), **Rights of Relatives and Other Third Parties for Visitation of Children** (7-30-02)

[Testimony](#), **Susan Dreyfus**, Administrator, Division of Children and Families, Department of Health and Family Services

[Testimony](#), **Mary Brintnall-Peterson**, University of Wisconsin-Extension, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Partnership of Wisconsin ([overheads to support testimony](#))

[Testimony](#), **Patti Seger**, Policy Development Coordinator, Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence